

## Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NIC-01 ACDA-05 OMB-01

OPR-01 A-01 SY-04 OC-05 IO-10 SCCT-01 /085 W

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O R 261102Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1862

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 1062

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: PDC MEETING ATTACKED BY DEMONSTRATORS

REF: (A) LISBON 628

(B) LISBON 1061

(C) LISBON 1046

1. FIRST LARGE RALLY OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC)  
SINCE ITS REVITALIZATION (REF A) WAS HELD ON EVENING OF  
FEB. 25 AT SPORTS PALACE IN CENTRAL LISBON. LUAR, A FAR LEFT  
REVOLUTIONARY ACTION GROUP (REF B), AND WARNED THAT IT WOULD BOYCOTT  
THE MEETING. ("BOYCOTT IN TODAY'S PORTUGAL MEANS ACTIVE  
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HARASSMENT.)

2. GOP SECURITY FORCES TOOK SOME PRECAUTIONS PRIOR TO RALLY USING MILITARY, POLICE, AND A FEW ARMORED CARS. HOWEVER, ABOUT AN HOUR AFTER BEGINNING OF MEETING, SMALL GROUP OF DEMONSTRATORS MANAGED TO GET INSIDE AND CREATED A DISTURBANCE AT BACK OF HALL. THIS CAUSED IMMEDIATE REACTION ON PARTY OF PDC YOUTHS WHO RAN FOR DEMONSTRATORS, SPOILING FOR A FIGHT. DEMONSTRATORS HASTILY EXITED.

3. RALLY PROCEEDED PEACEFULLY UNTIL MIDNIGHT CONCLUSION, AT WHICH POINT LEADERS ANNOUNCED THAT DUE TO PRESENCE OF DEMONSTRATORS OUTSIDE BUILDING WHO WERE THROWING ROCKS IT WOULD NOT BE SAFE TO LEAVE. AT 2:15 A.M. SOLDIERS BEGAN ESCORTING SMALL GROUPS OF PDC MEMBERS OUT OF BUILDING AND AWAY FROM THE AREA. HOWEVER, A ROCK THROWING CONTINUED, AND THERE WERE SEVERAL INJURIES TO PDC PARTICIPANTS AND TO SECURITY FORCES.

4. SECURITY FORCES, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF ARMORED CARS, MOUNTED POLICE, AND ARMY TROOPS WRE FINALLY ABLE TO GET ALL PDC PARTICIPANTS OUT OF BUILDING BY 3:00 A.M.

5. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHO THE DEMONSTRATORS WERE. ALTHOUGH WE CONSIDER IT LIKELY THAT LUAR WAS THE PRINCIPAL GROUP INVOLVED, OTHER FAR-LEFT GROUPS MAY HAVE PARTICIPATED.

6. COMMENT: LIKE THE VIOLENCE AT THE CDS OPORTO MEETING JAN. 25, THIS INCIDENT AGAIN RAISES SERIOUS QUESTIONS:. WHY DIDN'T THE GOP, IN VIEW OF THE AMPLE WARNING AVAILABLE, TAKE MEASURES TO PROTECT THE PDC MEETING? DOES THE FAILURE TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE PROTECTION MEAN THAT THE PDC IS CONSIDERED BY THE AFM AS UNACCEPTABLE AS THE CDS? MOST IMPORTANTLY, WILL MODERATE PARTIES BE ABLE TO CAMPAIGN EFFECTIVELY IN THE FACE OF HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE ON THE PART OF THE LEFT (REF C)?

7. WHETHER GOP ACTIVELY SPONSORS OR MERELY ACQUIESCES IN HARASSMENT OF CENTRIST PARTIES, RESULTS IS SAME: INTIMIDATION AND FEAR OF CONTESTING ELECTION. GOVERNMENT'S PROTESTATIONS OF POLICE INCOMPETENCE, LACK OF WARNING, POOR COORDINATION, ETC. RING INCREASINGLY HOLLOW IN VIEW OF ANOTHER INCIDENT OF HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTY MEETINGS, NATIONAL ELECTIONS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** PINT, PO, PDC  
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